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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The OCS school was located on Lenin Street in Saratov \angle N 51-34, E 46-027, opposite the Medical Research Institute. It was subordinate to the Department for Educational Institutions, Chief Directorate of Border Troops, NKVD.

The OCS had about 400 students who were divided into two battalions of 200 men each. In each battalion were two 100-man companies, each consisting of three platoons of 30-35 students. There were three 10 or 12-man squads in each platoon. Most of the students were NKVD border troop NCO's and privates. About five per cent were civilians who had had at least 10 years of schooling.

On their collar tabs, the students wore the gold-colored, metallic letters "SU" (Saratove Uchilishche-Saratov School).

25X1X the course was scheduled to last two years. However, due to the shortage of NKVD officer personnel and the losses suffered by NKVD personnel on the Finnish front, class was graduated after 14 months of instruction, in January 1940. Graduates of the OCS were usually commissioned as junior lieutenants, lieutenants, or senior lieutenants, according to their academic standing. all graduates were commissioned lieutenants. graduates were informed that they would be sent to the Finnish front, but the armistice between the USSR and Finland was signed in February 1940, was sent to the Ukrainian-Rumanian border.

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The OCS CO was a colonel. The staff consisted of the following: The political commissar (also a colonel) was assisted by five to seven officers (ranging from lieutenants to lieutenant colonels) who acted as the Party organizer, Party secretary, and the Komsomol, club, library, and musical band officers. A major served as deputy for supply and was aided by three to five lieutenants and captains who handled food, clothing, equipment and finance matters. The staff of instructors were NKVD officers of the Department for Educational Institutions.

25X12. [] not able to recall in detail the daily schedule of instruction on general military subjects because of the time that has elapsed
25X1X [] Subjects covered are mentioned below:

- a. Tactics -- infantry company, platoon and squad; T/O & E; tactics in attack and defense; orientation on artillery, armor and infantry teamwork up to battalion level.
- b. Weapons -- field stripping, nomenclature, aiming exercises and target practice with TT pistol, M-1891 rifle, LMG and Maxim HMG.
- c. Political -- Communist Party, Marxism, Leninism, Stalinism, five-year plan, etc.
- d. Engineer -- general orientation on barbed wire, booby traps, fox holes, trenches, camouflage and border security measures.
- e. Signal -- general orientation on UNA and UNAF telephones and laying of wire. Radio was not taught.
- f. Chemical -- various gases, gas mask, decontamination and protection.
- g. Close order drill -- manual, facings, salutes and marching.
- h. Topography -- orientation by compass and map reading.
- i. Physical training -- obstacle course, calisthenics and bayonet drill.
- j. Officer behavior -- orientation on the behavior expected of officers.
- k. English lessons -- discontinued after two or three months.
- l. Review of Russian grammar -- perfection in grammar, spelling and speech.

3. Border Training. []
border training offered at the OCS:

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- a. Intelligence consisted of recruiting informers from among farmers who would report all newcomers or strangers who asked them for direction or assistance, regular checking of all informers, evaluating data given by informers, and taking necessary action after such evaluation.
- b. Planning consisted of selecting personnel for the various types of duties and taking necessary security measures in order to seal off the border (e.g., the use of hidden trip wires which caused red lights to flash, barbed wire barricades, and 10 to 15-m. of plowed strips which showed footprints of illegal border crossers).
- c. Administration included paying of informers who aided in the capture of illegal border crossers; orientation of personnel in border guard duties, action to be taken in case of epidemics, treatment of foreigners apprehended in border areas, checking on the physical condition of troops, and checking on the condition of animals, vehicles and equipment.

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- d. Duties assigned to various groups of Border Guard troops were as follows:

Border Sentinel (Chasovoy Granitsy or Ch) -- EM were placed on road blocks, boat landings, river boundaries, bridges on river boundaries, in front of company orderly rooms, government buildings and border points. Border sentry posts consisted of one or two EM and were either stationary or walking. If there were two EM, one was always designated the "senior" and was in charge of the post. Walking sentinels who were to guard border points and areas near border points had a 400- to 800-m. post. In terrain reinforced with electric signal wires, the posts were lengthened to 1½ or 2 km. and in rare cases up to 3 km. Reliefs on walking and standing posts were posted in the same manner. The old relief had to check all equipment such as border stakes, plowed strips and signal lights before turning the post over to the new relief. The average tour was from six to eight hours. This included the traveling time to and from garrison.

Walking Patrol (Dozor or D) -- The duties of a walking patrol consisted of guarding a certain border sector, lighting up the sector, checking plowed strips and signal warning lights, acting as contact between posts and checking guards to see that they were carrying out their duties according to orders. Walking patrols consisted of one or more armed EM. These patrols walked from 6 to 12 hours and longer. If a patrol was sent out for tours longer than six or eight hours it took along water and food for the EM and their animals (horses, dogs and carrier pigeons).

Trap Detail (Sekret or S) -- This was a detail of two or more EM. It was sent to areas favorable for border crossing (e.g., shallow streams, mountain passes and dense woods). Its mission was to trap all border crossers and saboteurs entering or leaving the USSR, apprehend and/or annihilate them. It was equipped with S-2 /this device will be described in another report/ signal equipment and dogs. The tour of a trap detail was not to exceed two hours.

Ambush Detail (Zasada or Z) -- If there was a "tip" that someone would attempt a border crossing an ambush detail was dispatched to lie in wait. The detail consisted of three men and had an officer or veteran NCO in charge. The men were armed with knives, SMG's, LMG's or pistols, as the situation demanded. They hid in barns or homes and had enough food and water to last for 24 hours.

Covering Detachment (Zaslon or Zn) -- This detachment had from 10 to 1,000 armed border guards, depending on the mission. Its mission was to apprehend border crossers by bottling up an entire sector, blocking all village entrances and exits, all forests, ravines, caves, passes, gorges and groves. It would set up its own patrols, traps and ambushes and continue on duty for several days. Even if this detail consisted of only 10 men, it had to be commanded by an officer.

Border Convoy Detail (Pogranichnyy Konvoy or PK) -- This detail, two or more armed men led by an officer or NCO, escorted illegal border crossers and personnel without proper border territory identification from the company headquarters to battalion or higher headquarters.

Patrol Detail (Patrul' or P) -- Composed of two or more EM, this detail was sent into populated areas, kolkhozes, factories, trains, and piers to check individuals for proper border territory documents. The EM were also to be on the lookout for, and detain, suspicious persons.

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Couriers (Pogranichnaya Pochta or PP) -- The detail was made up of two or more armed EM assigned to pick up correspondence between companies and between companies and higher headquarters.

Observation Detail (Post Nablyudeniya or PN) -- Each observation detail consisted of three or more armed EM. Observation details were of two types: overt and covert. Overt details were assigned to wooden observation towers about 20 m. in height. Covert details were assigned to posts hidden in trees, caves, etc., to observe the area on both sides of the border or special objects adjacent to the border. The detail was led by an officer, NCO or EM who had attended a special course in observation technique. The posts were manned from dawn to dusk. An observation detail had food, a sketch of the terrain, a watch, binoculars, a logbook, and a field telephone or rocket flares. All observations were noted in the logbook and later reported to the company CO. If illegal border crossers were noted by the detail, they were detained.

Search Detail (Poiskovaya Gruppya or PG) -- The detail was formed when a sentry reported an illegal border crossing or border violation. If the plowed strips showed footprints, the detail was sent out with German shepherd dogs. If informers reported a border crossing, the details would move out in the indicated direction of crossing. Usually, the company CO would personally take charge of the detail which consisted of three to nine armed EM with dogs. Any time an illegal border crosser was seen or reported in an area, several search details would be formed under officers or NCO's to work at angles to the first search detail and to assure greater coverage of the area. If necessary, entire companies could be called out to form assisting search groups. The groups would cover populated areas, forests, caves, overgrown areas and other probable hiding places. The CO of a search could not call off operations without consent of the battalion, regimental, or division CO.

Border Picket Detail (Pogranichnyy Piket) -- Upon receipt of word that individuals were planning an illegal border crossing, 10 to 15 EM, commanded by an officer could be sent out as a picket detail. This detail would be on guard for 10 days or longer. It could be split up into various subdetails to facilitate apprehension. The detail was sent out by a company or higher unit with which it had to maintain constant contact.

Border Post Detail (Pogranichnyy Post) -- This type of detail could have been formed in areas where the border had a KLEN-M signal system [This device will be described in another report]. It had three or more armed EM with a senior in charge. The men remained in a bunker or guard hut which had a telephone. Outside the building was a board which lighted up whenever someone touched the KLEN-M wire. One man was detailed to watch the board. When a light flashed on, the company orderly room was notified by phone and a search party was sent to the area where the wire had been tripped.

Charge of Quarters (Dezhurnyy po Zastave or DZ) -- An NCO or experienced private was detailed as company CQ. Two CQs were on duty daily. One was on from 0800 to 2000 hours; the other from 2000 to 0800 hours. The CQ was directly under orders of the company CO and the first sergeant. His duties were to: (1) see that all EM reported to their various assignments (cooks, supply men, training, etc.); (2) assemble and send out border details; (3) maintain communications with all subordinate

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details, with neighboring companies, and with higher headquarters; (4) awaken all personnel for alarms or alerts, form them into armed ranks and report to the company CO; (5) receive orders and coded messages from higher headquarters and relay them to the company CO; (6) receive through the sentry all visual signals from border details and take proper action; (7) be responsible for the care of the horses and dogs; (8) check on the company sentry and the stables orderly; and (9) read messages brought in by homing pigeons and relay them to the company CO.

Sentry in Front of Company Orderly Room (Chasovoy Po Zastave or ChZ) -- The sentry was responsible for guarding the area around the orderly room. He was on post four hours and off eight. For each 24-hour period there were three sentries. Theoretically, the sentry was to be posted by the company CO; but actually, the CQ posted him and gave him his orders.

Stables Orderly -- The orderly was an EM detailed to take care of the horses.

Signalman -- An EM was in charge of the 10 or 12 homing pigeons assigned to each border company (zastav). (A border company guarded an area 4 to 20 km. in length and 100 m. to 5 km. in depth.)

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